

Llyr Gruffydd MS  
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure  
Committee

6 October 2022

### **The Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Wales) Bill**

Dear Llyr,

Thank you for your letter of 23 September 2022 regarding the proposed timetable for the Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Wales) Bill. Business Committee considered your response and the Welsh Government's proposed timetable at our meeting on 27 September.


We greatly appreciate the scrutiny that your Committee was able to undertake over the summer following the publication of the draft Bill by the Government. In light of that work, and the reassurance you were therefore able to give around the scrutiny that you have been able to give to the Bill, Business Committee agreed to the Government's proposed timetable for scrutiny including not to refer the Bill to a responsible Committee for consideration of the general principles. The full reasons for our decision are stated in our **report** laid in the Table Office.

In reaching this decision, we noted the points made in your letter that the approach taken in respect of this Bill should not be considered equivalent to, or an adequate replacement for, formal Stage 1 Committee scrutiny.

Your letter also states that the Government has an inbuilt majority on the Business Committee. Whilst this is correct when the Committee's membership is considered, it is also the case that Members who are not otherwise represented by a party group are

able to attend Business Committee and to exercise a vote where required. Jane Dodds MS is a regular attendee at Business Committee and, when that is the case, there is currently an equality of government and non-government votes. In those circumstances, I am required to exercise my casting vote in accordance with Standing Orders.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elin Jones".

**The Rt Hon. Elin Jones MS**

Y Llywydd and Chair of the Business Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

